



BROOKLYN VILLAGE



Remembering Charlotte's Brooklyn

Dr. Tom Hanchett www.HistorySouth.org

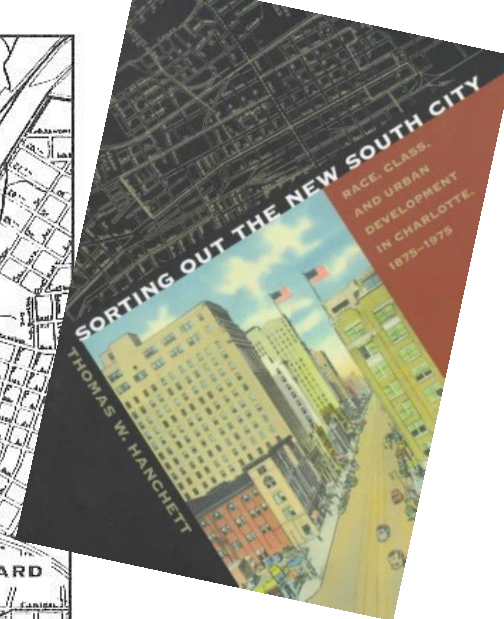
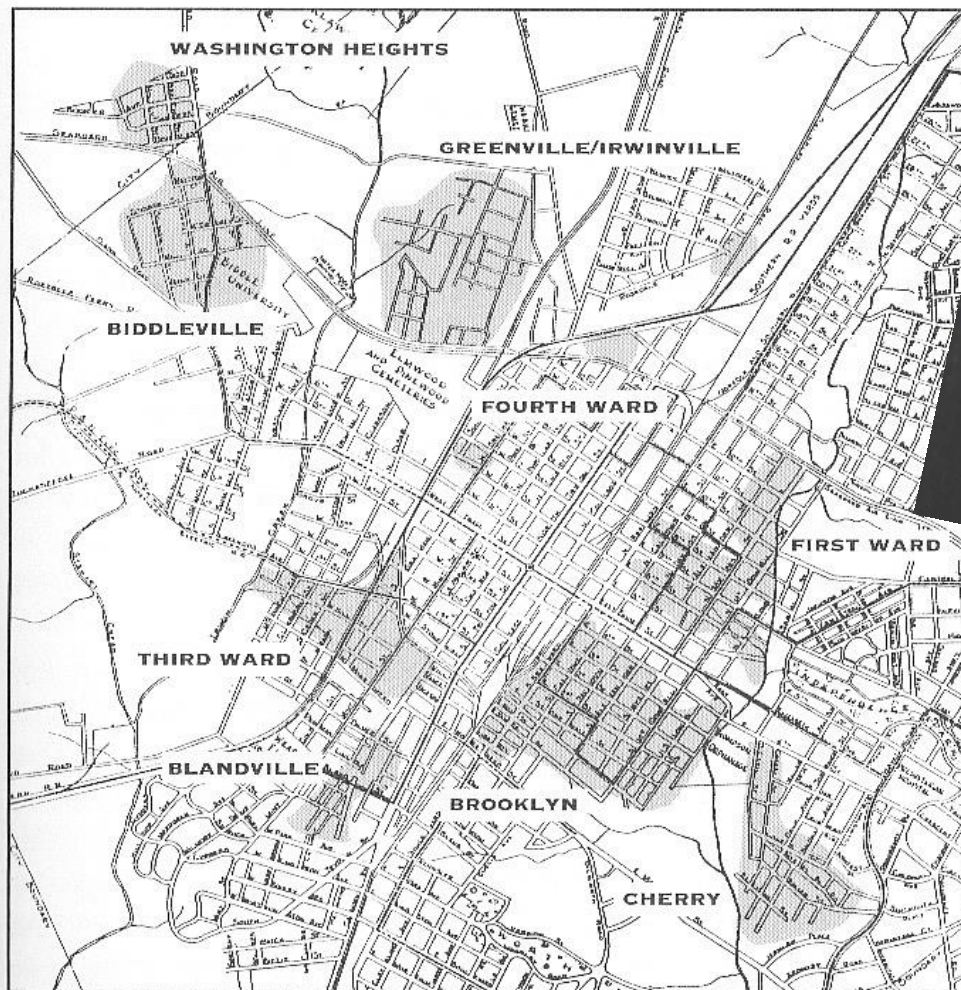
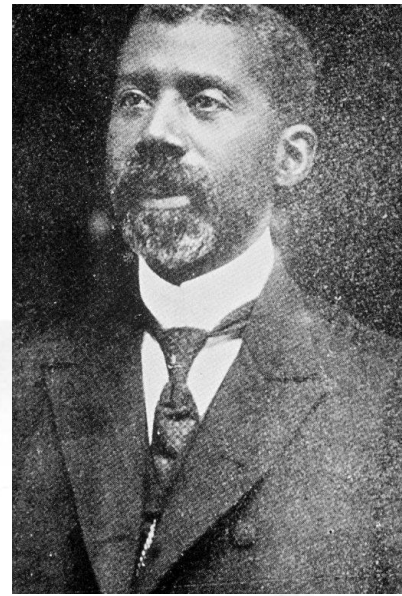


FIG. 30. BLACK NEIGHBORHOODS, CA. 1917

J.T. Williams: US Consul to Sierra Leone

Brevard Street:

J.T. Williams House, Grace AME Zion, MIC
Building



Courtesy of Carolina Room, Charlotte Mecklenburg Public

Brevard Street:
Grace AME Zion, MIC
Building



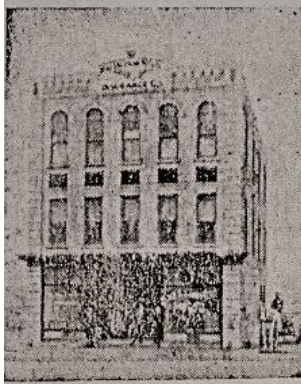
Courtesy of Carolina Room, Charlotte Mecklenburg Public



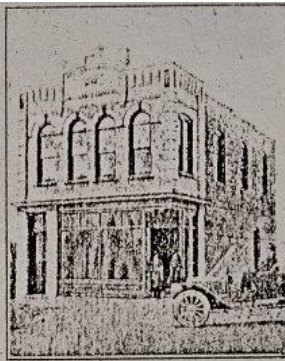
*Second Street just prior to "Urban
Renewal"*

Queen City Drug Store & Afro-American Mutual Building

Courtesy of Charlotte Observer



Home Office, The Afro-American Mutual Insurance Company.
412 East 2nd Street.



Office, The Afro-American Mutual Insurance Co., Rock Hill, S. C.

Sickness is Sure to Come: Death Follows.

If you were taken Suddenly Sick to-night and die, WHAT THEN?

From five cents, (5c.) to twenty-five cents, (25c.) per week when you are well, brings you from one dollar, (\$1) to five dollars (\$5) per week during sickness and from fifteen dollars (\$15) to seventy-five dollars (\$75) at death. Who in your family will need it first?

An Afro-American policy, by an Afro-American agent, made by Afro-American clerks, on an Afro-American husband, an Afro-American wife, or an Afro-American child, makes an Afro-American person independent in all hours of sickness or death.

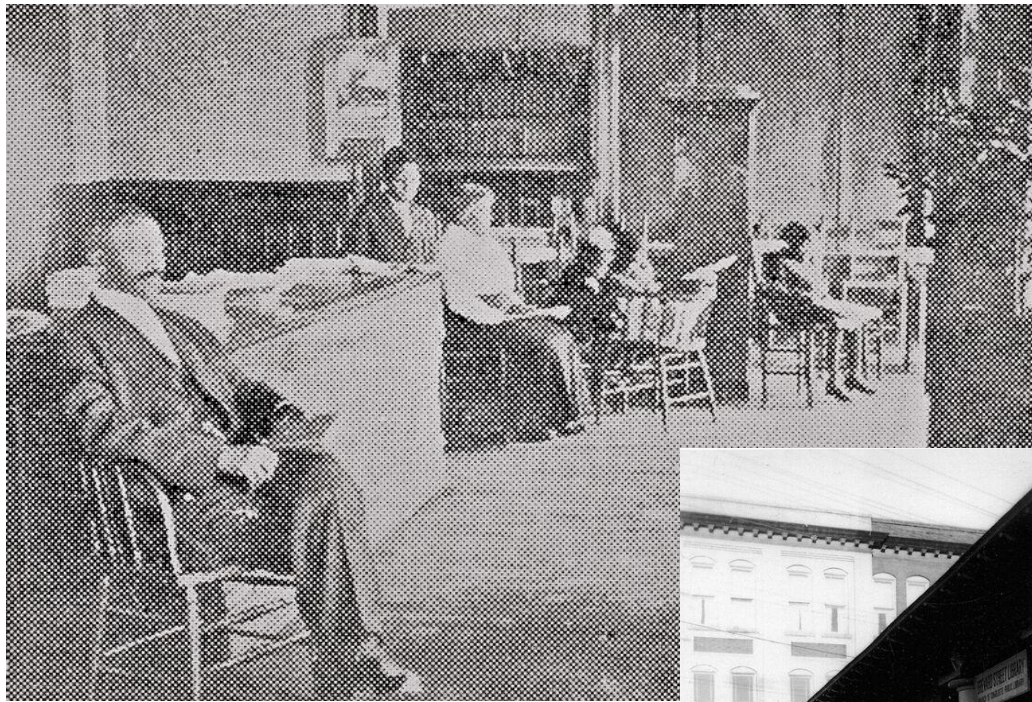


A Busy Day in Home Office Afro-American Mutual



Colored Charlotte booklet, 1915

Courtesy of Carolina Room
Charlotte Mecklenburg Public Library

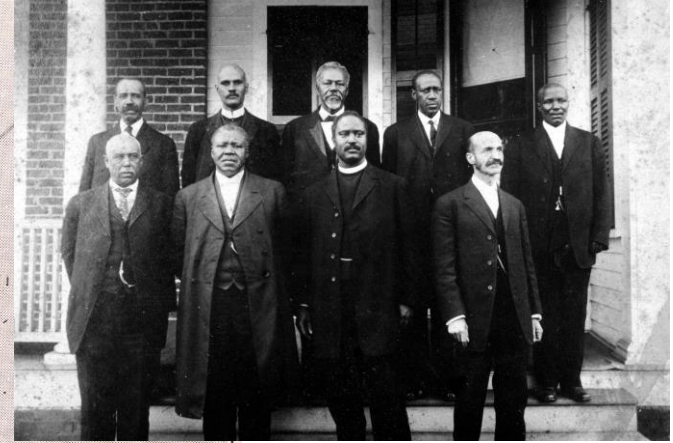


Brevard Street Branch:

First black public library in North
Carolina

*Courtesy of Carolina Room
Charlotte Mecklenburg Public Library*

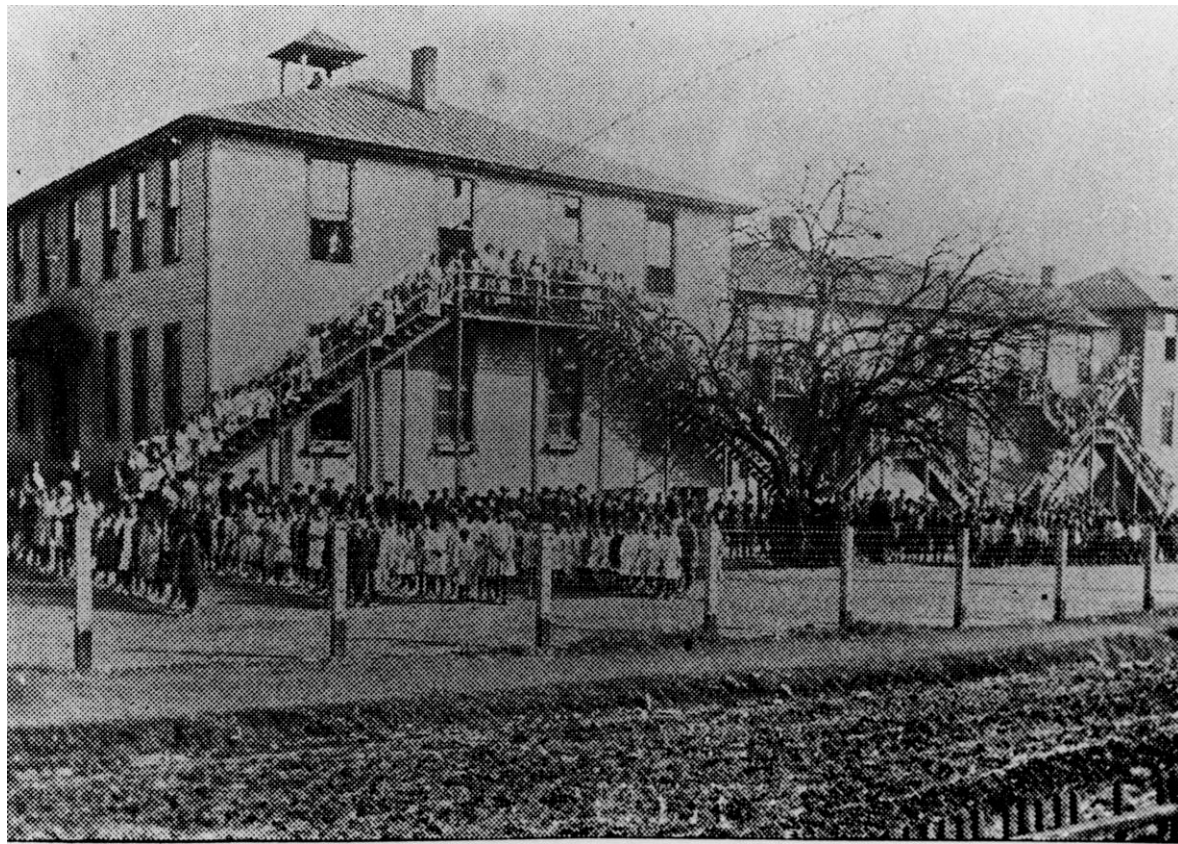




Board members 1916

AME Zion
Publishing
House

*Courtesy of Carolina Room, Charlotte Mecklenburg Public
Library*



Myers Street School

First Charlotte school built for African American children

Stood near present site of Aquatic Center

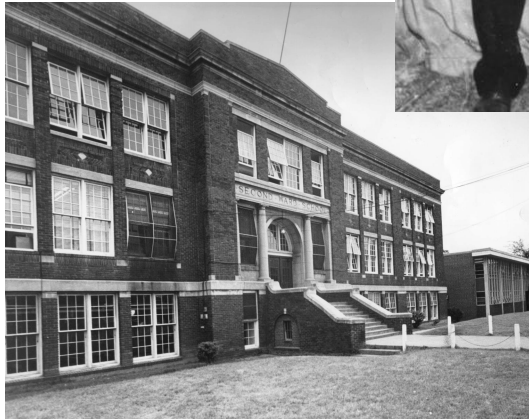
Courtesy of Carolina Room, Charlotte Mecklenburg Public Library



Courtesy of Carolina Room, Charlotte Mecklenburg Public Library



Vermelle Diamond,
Queen, 1947



Courtesy of Carolina Room, Charlotte Mecklenburg Public
Library



St. Paul Baptist Church

St. Paul Ladies Usher Board



Courtesy of Carolina Room, Charlotte Mecklenburg Public



United House of Prayer for All People on McDowell



Ebenezer Baptist on Second Street



Brooklyn Presbyterian Church & Manse



Dr. E. French Tyson practiced in Charlotte from 1913 to 1950. MAYE T. JACKSON.
Below: His home was located at 907 South Brevard Street. LAURA M. BOOTON.



Brooklyn included
middle-class homes and rental
homes for working families



Maye T. Jackson in front of her house
on Alexander Street with her great-
granddaughters, Geraldine and Beverly,
1950.
GERALDINE JOHNSON BLENNER.



Brooklyn included
substandard rental
housing



Federal “red lining” 1938

From www.HistorySouth.org, courtesy of
National Archives

Applying the principles of renewal

The entire concept of urban renewal has "come of age" and, in Charlotte, it has reached full maturity.

Much of the blight that nearly overwhelmed the inner city a few years back is now being removed. In the Brooklyn project we have gone beyond the stages of demolition and clearing and are well into fulfillment of the development plans which were so carefully formulated years ago.

But our obligation is to Charlotte's citizens and to

their environment.

We curative and prevent environment — housing the city — may never

Today we are paying newal necessitated of foresight of prev these same follies to



Federally funded

Urban Renewal

1950s – 1960s

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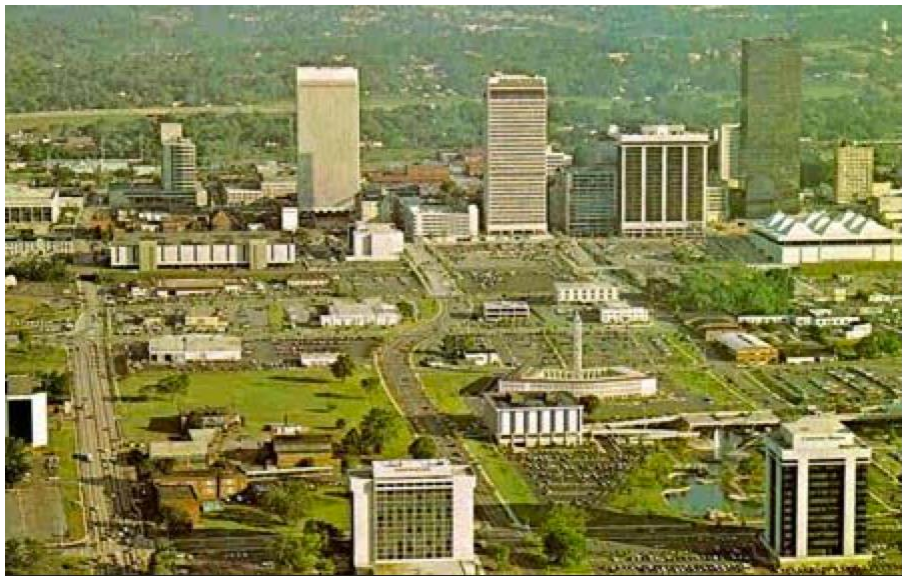
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But our obligation is to Charlotte's citizens and to

their environment. "Decay and renewal" are natural and perpetual. We must meet decay with adequate curative and preventive planning so that the environment—housing, neighborhoods, communities, the city—may never be allowed to deteriorate again.

Today we are paying for and doing the work of renewal necessitated by the false economy and lack of foresight of previous generations. We *cannot* pass these same follies to future generations.





Brooklyn land after “Urban Renewal”

1970s postcard shows:

Tryon Street towers at top

Walton Plaza on Stonewall at left / Ed Center and 1st Baptist Church at right-center

McDowell Street at bottom

TEAM: BK PARTNERS LLC



- Peebles Corporation
- Conformity Corporation
- Stantec

Honor the heritage...the
“essence and the spirit”
of Brooklyn





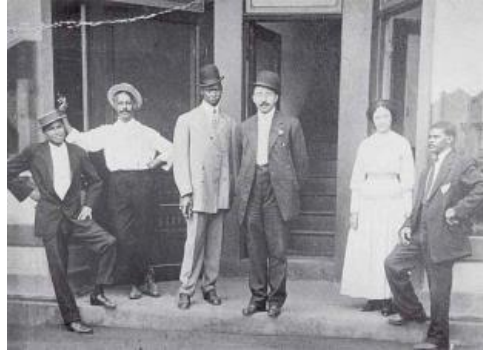
Your thoughts

- What are the most important elements of Brooklyn's History and Culture? (be as specific as possible)
- How do we include these elements in the new neighborhood?
- What other design elements and features should we consider as we complete our design work?

History



Culture



Rooted in the Second Ward's historic vitality



timeline



1768
Charlotte, North Carolina incorporated as a city.

1886
Myers Street School, built in 1886, also known as Jacob's Ladder, is the only public grade school serving African-Americans in North Carolina until 1907.

1880s - 1950s
Brooklyn Neighborhood is the heart of Charlotte's African-American community.

1905
Brevard Library for Negroes becomes the first public library for African-Americans in North Carolina. Located in the heart of Brooklyn, the library was funded by the City of Charlotte and donations from the black community.

1923
Second Ward High School dedicated: The school is the first school to serve African-American teenagers in Mecklenburg County. For nearly five decades this building represented the heart of the Brooklyn Community.

1949
Carver College opens a branch at Second Ward High School offering night classes for World War II Veterans.

1961
As a part of urban renewal, the Charlotte City Council votes to clear eight blocks of the Brooklyn neighborhood at the cost of \$2.4 million.

1963
Demolition of Brooklyn businesses, homes and churches begins.



Late '60s - Early '70s
Development of current government facilities/Marshall Park construction



2000
Adoption of 2010 Vision Plan



Myers Street School, "Jacob's Ladder" - c. 1907



Brevard Library - c. 1905



Second Ward H.S. Student Council - 1948



Early settler's cabin - 1848



Brooklyn - c. 1959



Second Ward High School - 1948



Second Ward District - 1975



Urban Renewal - 1963

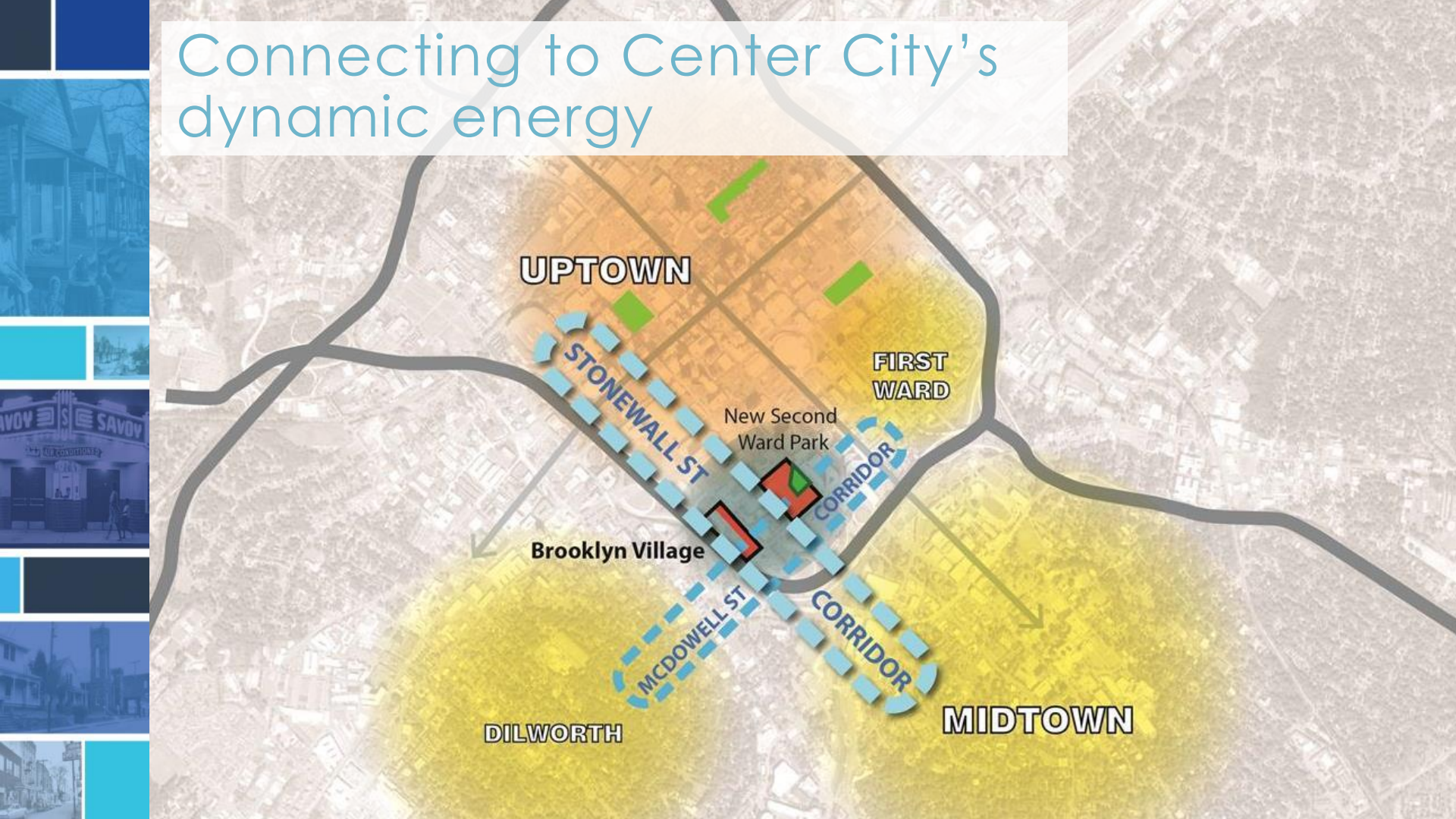


Government Housing - 1960s



Second Ward District - 2001

Connecting to Center City's dynamic energy



Inviting Charlotte's innovative future



Past Plans: 2003 to today



The Design Vision



Brooklyn Village South

BLOCK I

PHASE I

111,300 GSF HOTEL (150KEYS)

16,500 GSF RETAIL

46,000 GSF PARKING (146 SPACES)

PARKING ABOVE GRADE

BLOCK H

PHASE 3

355,100 GSF RESIDENTIAL (395 UNITS)

14,300 GSF RETAIL

131,400 GSF PARKING (417 SPACES)

PARKING BOTH ABOVE & BELOW GRADE

BLOCK G

PHASE 3

506,600 GSF OFFICE

76,000 GSF RETAIL

116,000 GSF PARKING (368 SPACES)

PARKING BELOW GRADE



Diverse mix of uses





Completing Stonewall



John Belk Freeway/ I-277 Gateway



A walk along Stonewall

Brooklyn Village North

BLOCK C
68,000 GSF OFFICE
12,200 GSF RETAIL
2,700 GSF CULTURAL

BLOCK F

PHASE 2

169,500 GSF RESIDENTIAL (188 UNITS)
9,700 GSF RETAIL
129,400 GSF PARKING (411 SPACES)
PARKING ABOVE GRADE

BLOCK E

PHASE 1

207,700 GSF RESIDENTIAL (231 UNITS)
19,900 GSF RETAIL

BLOCK A

PHASE 1

230,500 GSF RESIDENTIAL (256 UNITS)
48,700 GSF RETAIL
84,400 GSF PARKING (268 SPACES)
PARKING BELOW GRADE

BLOCK D

PHASE 1

74,200 GSF HOTEL (130 KEYS)
105,800 GSF OFFICE
39,000 GSF RETAIL
129,500 GSF PARKING (411 SPACES)
PARKING ABOVE GRADE



A walk along Second Street



A walk along Second Street



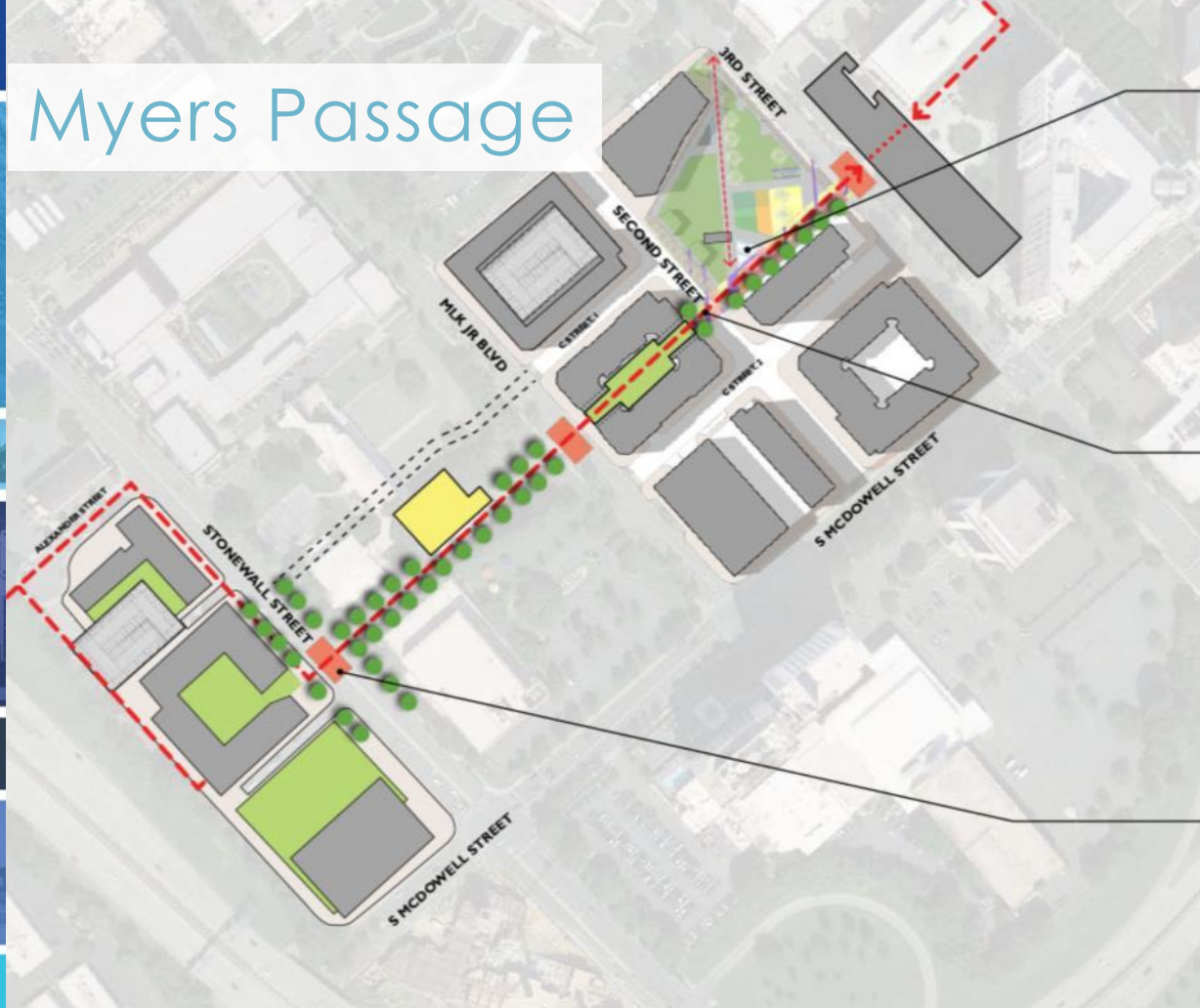
A walk in the park



Culture...and telling the Brooklyn Story



Myers Passage



CAPTIVATE the user by pulling them into the site using lighting, color, and art



ACTIVATE Myer's Passage through paving patterns and architectural features



INVIGORATE existing Stonewall Street with unique pedestrian crossings

Myers Passage





Connecting to Midtown



Your thoughts

- What are the most important elements of Brooklyn's History and Culture? (be as specific as possible)
- How do we include these elements in the new neighborhood?
- What other design elements and features should we consider as we complete our design work?



Our Next Steps – public sessions

- **Brooklyn Village History and Cultural Programming & Other Design Elements**

- **Monday, August 15th** 6:00 pm & **Tuesday, August 16th** 11:30 am
- **Location:** Beatties Ford Road Public Library

- **MWSBE Participation & Outreach**

- **Monday, August 29th** 6:00 pm & **Tuesday, August 30th** 11:30 am
- **Location:** LUESA (Mon pm), Belmont Community Center (Tues am)

- **Affordable Housing and Public Open Space**

- **Monday, September 12th** 6:00 pm & **Tuesday, September 13th** 11:30 am
- **Location:** Little Rock AME Zion Church

- **Economic Opportunity and Approach to Retail**

- **Monday, September 26th** 6:00 pm & **Tuesday, September 27th** 11:30 am
- **Location:** LUESA, 2145 Suttle Avenue

Final Town Hall Meeting

Thursday, October 13th 6:00 pm, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center



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- Facebook: [brooklynvillageclt](#)
- Twitter: [@brooklynvlgclt](#)
- Web: [brooklynvillage-clt.com](#) OR [charmecck.org/mecklenburg/county/BMC2U/Pages/Brooklyn-Village-Redevelopment.aspx](#)